JOURNAL

of the

UNITED NATIONS

TUESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 1997 No. 1997/178

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Tuesday, 16 September 1997

SECURITY COUNCIL

10.30 a.m.	consultations of the whole (closed)	Consultation Room

Bosnia and Herzegovina (S/1997/694)

Liberia ((S/1997/712)

Other matters

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-second session

3 p.m.	1st PLENARY MEETING	General Assembly Hall

1. Opening of the session by the Chairman of the delegation of Malaysia.
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation.
3. Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President of the General Assembly.

Immediately following the plenary meeting	General Assembly Hall

Consecutive meetings of the Main Committees for the purpose of electing their Chairmen.

Immediately following the meetings of the Main Committees	2nd PLENARY MEETING	General Assembly Hall

Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON THE SITUATION WITH REGARD TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	1483rd meeting	Conference Room 1

1. Adoption of agenda
2. Tribute to the memory of Dr. Farouk Al-Attar, Minister Counsellor, Syrian Arab Republic and former Rapporteur of the Special Committee
3. Volcanic eruption in Montserrat
4. Activities of foreign economic interests and other interests which impede the implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples in Territories under their colonial domination (A/AC.109/L.1864)
5. Military activities and arrangements by colonial Powers in Territories under their administration (A/AC.109/L.1865)
6. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations (A/AC.109/L.1866, A/AC.109/L.1867, E/1997/81 and Add.1, A/52/185)
7. Election of Rapporteur
8. Closure of the session

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

Subjects

1. World Food Programme
2. Draft report: proposed programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999: Chapter II

INVESTMENTS COMMITTEE

9 a.m.- 1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 8
2.30 p.m.- 6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 8

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

Executive Board of the United Nations Development Programme and of the United Nations Population Fund

Third regular session 1997

10 a.m.- 1 p.m.	42nd meeting	Economic and Social Council Chamber

UNDP: Financial, budgetary and administrative matters [3] (DP/1997/23, DP/1997/31)

[There will be a meeting of the donors group at 9 a.m. in Conference Room D.]

[There will be informal consultations on UNDP financial, budgetary and administrative matters (budget estimates for the biennium 1998-1999) from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber.]

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The Technical Subgroup of the Ad Hoc Open-ended Working Group on Informatics will meet, under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Ahmad Kamal (Pakistan), *today*, 16 September 1997, at 11 a.m. sharp in Conference Room S-2127A.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

The announcements in this section are reproduced as received. The designations employed do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the Secretariat of the United Nations.

Tuesday, 16 September 1997

GROUP OF 77
(on the draft ministerial declaration)

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 7
3 p.m.-6 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 7

WESTERN EUROPEAN AND OTHER STATES GROUP

10 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 3

ARAB GROUP OF THE WHOLE

11 a.m.-1 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 6

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Announcement

As from Monday, 1 September 1997, and for the rest of the month, the Presidency of the Security Council will conduct informal briefings on the current work of the Council for Member States of the United Nations which are non-members of the Council daily, except on days on which no informal consultations are scheduled. The briefings from 1 to 19 September will take place at 3.30 p.m. in the Press Briefing Room (S-226), and thereafter in Conference Room E.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

Wednesday, 17 September 1997

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-second session

GENERAL COMMITTEE

10 a.m.	1st meeting	Conference Room 4

Organization of work of the fifty-second regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: memorandum by the Secretary-General (A/BUR/52/1).

Committees

CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

5 p.m.	1st meeting	Conference Room 8

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

10.30 a.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10
3 p.m.	closed meeting	Conference Room 10

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The Fifth Committee will hold its 2nd meeting on Friday, 19 September 1997, at 3 p.m. in Conference Room 3, for the purpose of electing its Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteur and to consider its programme of work.

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CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION TO COMBAT DESERTIFICATION IN THOSE COUNTRIES EXPERIENCING SERIOUS DROUGHT AND/OR DESERTIFICATION, PARTICULARLY IN AFRICA

Lists of speakers

The first session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa, will take place in Rome from 29 September to 10 October 1997.

The high-level segment will be held on 7 and 8 and in the morning of 9 October 1997. Statements in this segment will be open to Heads of State or government, ministers and heads of delegation of the States participating in the first session of the Conference of the Parties. It is suggested that the average time for each statement should not exceed 6 minutes.

The list of speakers for the high-level segment is now open. Delegations wishing to inscribe on the list are requested to contact the office of the Secretary of the Conference of the Parties (Ms. June Chesney, tel.: 963-5742; fax: 963-5935).

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

The first session of the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests of the Commission on Sustainable Development will be held from 1 to 3 October 1997 in Conference Room 4. The provisional agenda for the session is contained in document E/CN.17/IFF/1997/1.

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Executive Board of UNDP and of UNFPA

The Executive Board will hold a workshop on "Narrowing the Focus: UNDP Core Development Services" on Monday, 22 September 1997, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the Economic and Social Council Chamber. Interested delegations are invited to attend.

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There will be an informal Inter-Agency Consultative Meeting (closed) on Wednesday, 17 September 1997, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Conference Room B.

MEETINGS OTHER THAN MEETINGS OF UNITED NATIONS BODIES

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The Arab Group of the Whole will meet at the ambassadorial level on Wednesday, 17 September, at 3.30 p.m. in Conference Room 5.

On Thursday, 18 September, at 3 p.m. the Arab Group of the Whole will meet in the Trusteeship Council Chamber.

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There will be a meeting of Member and Associate Member States of the Association of Caribbean States (ACS) on Wednesday, 17 September 1997, at 10 a.m. in Conference Room 5.

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There will be an informal meeting of interested delegations with UNDP Resident Representatives present in New York on Thursday, 18 September 1997, from 1.30 p.m. to 3 p.m. in Conference Room D.

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There will be a meeting of the Least Developed Countries (at the ambassadorial level) on Thursday, 18 September 1997, from 3.30 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Conference Room 5, to finalize the draft Declaration of the Seventh Annual Ministerial Meeting of the Least Developed Countries (document No. LDC/MM7/1997/2/Rev.2).

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Briefings for new delegates to the General Assembly

The United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) is organizing the following briefings for the new delegates to the General Assembly:

1. General briefing on the work of the fifty-second session of the General Assembly on Wednesday, 17 and Thursday, 18 September 1997, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. (Conference Room 1).

2. Special briefing on the work of the Second Committee of the General Assembly on Friday, 19 September, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Conference Room 1).

3. Special briefing on the work of the Fifth Committee of the General Assembly on Friday, 19 September, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Conference Room 3)

Since the Second Committee will hold a formal meeting on Friday, 19 September 1997, in the afternoon, the special briefing on the work of that Committee will take place on 19 September in the morning. For further information on the briefing, please contact Ms. Maud Graham (room DC1-603, tel.: 963-9196).

SUMMARY OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Friday, 12 September 1997

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-first session

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE — 74th meeting

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [112]

The Committee continued its consideration of this agenda item.

Strengthening of external oversight mechanisms

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee (Bangladesh) and Coordinator of informal consultations on this question made a statement and proposed an oral decision.

The representative of Cuba made a statement.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the oral decision.

Gratis personnel provided by Governments and other entities

In her capacity as Coordinator of informal consultations on this question, the representative of Mexico introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, and orally corrected a draft resolution (A/C.5/51/L.90).

Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, the United States, Costa Rica, Cuba, Pakistan and Egypt.

The Controller responded to questions posed.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution, as orally corrected.

Following the adoption of draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.90, the representative of Côte d' Ivoire (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) withdrew draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.83.

Statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Belgium (on behalf of the European Union), Japan, the United States and Pakistan.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 [116]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Construction of additional conference facilities at Addis Ababa

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee (Germany) and Coordinator of informal consultations on this question introduced draft decision A/C.5/51/L.86.

Statements were made by the representatives of Côte d' Ivoire (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the United States and Cuba.

The Controller responded to questions posed.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft decision.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Pattern of conferences [118]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Facilitating access by developing countries to the optical disk system

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee (Germany) and Coordinator of informal consultations on this question introduced draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.87.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations [119]

Procedural aspects of the consideration of requests for exemption under Article 19

The Vice-Chairman of the Committee (Germany) and Coordinator of informal consultations on this question introduced draft decision A/C.5/51/L.85.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft decision.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services [141]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

In her capacity as Coordinator of informal consultations on this question, the representative of the Philippines introduced on behalf of the Chairman draft decision A/C.5/51/L.88.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft decision.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Human resources management [120]

Letter from the Secretary-General addressed to the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China (A/51/955 and A/C.5/51/58)

The attention of the Committee was drawn to the letter of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/51/58) in response to the letter addressed to him by the Chairman of the Group of 77 and China (A/51/955).

Statements were made by the representatives of Côte d' Ivoire (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Algeria, the United States, Cuba and India.

The Committee decided to revert to this question at its fifty-second session.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations [140]

The Committee continued its consideration of this agenda item.

Support account for peacekeeping operations: Lessons Learned Unit

In his capacity as Coordinator of informal consultations on this question, the representative of Australia introduced on behalf of the Chairman draft resolution A/C.5/51/L.89.

Statements were made by the representatives of France, China and Canada.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

Statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of the United States, the Netherlands and France.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item.

Other matters

The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic made a statement and requested that his statement made at the Committee's 57th meeting on 13 May 1997 in connection with item 123 (b) (United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon) be properly reflected in the summary records of the Committee.

The Chairman made a statement.

Closure of the work of the Fifth Committee of the fifty-first session of the General Assembly

The acting Chairman of the Committee read out a letter addressed to the Bureau and Members of the Fifth Committee from the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. N.F. Sengwe (Zimbabwe).

Statements were made by the representatives of Armenia (on behalf of the Eastern European States), Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of the African States) and the Syrian Arab Republic (on behalf of the Asian States), Uruguay (on behalf of the Latin American and Caribbean States) and Liechtenstein (on behalf of the Western European and Other States).

The Chairman declared closed the work of the Fifth Committee at the fifty-first regular session of the General Assembly.

Monday, 15 September 1997

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-first session

107th plenary meeting

Note: The summary of the 107th plenary meeting of the General Assembly will appear in the next issue of the *Journal* (No 1997/179).

SIGNATURES, RATIFICATIONS, ETC.

[MULTILATERAL TREATIES DEPOSITED WITH THE SECRETARY-GENERAL]

United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa. Opened for signature at Paris on 14 October 1994

Ratification: Democratic Republic of the Congo (12 September 1997)*

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* The date of receipt of the relevant documents.

COMMUNICATIONS TO THE EDITOR

Material for insertion in the *Journal* should be addressed to Room S-1138 (extensions 33888, 36771 and 36776) (e.mail address: JOURNAL@UN.ORG)

Office opens at 4.30 p.m.

97-23256